

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title	Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan
Brief Description	The Van Vleck Meadow Complex is located on the Pacific District, Eldorado National Forest (ENF) just outside of Desolation Wilderness. The ENF has identified problem areas that are negatively contributing to watershed condition and has drafted an action plan for restoration. The desired outcomes of this proposal is to complete project design for priority restoration areas, complete necessary surveys, complete NEPA/CEQA and required permitting for selected sites, and collect baseline monitoring data to measure effectiveness of future restoration activities.
Total Requested Amount	75,000.00
Other Fund Proposed	50,000.00
Total Project Cost	125,000.00
Project Category	Pre-Project Due Diligence
Project Area/Size	0000
Project Area Type	Not Applicable
Have you submitted to SNC this fiscal year?	No
Is this application related to other SNC funding?	No

Project Results
CEQA/NEPA Compliance

Project Purpose	Project Purpose Percent
Water Quality	

County
El Dorado

Sub Region
Central

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Ms. Katy Parr,
Title	Acting District Ranger
Organization	Eldorado National Forest
Primary Address	Eldorado National Forest, Pacific Ranger District, 7887 Highway 50, , Pollock Pines, CA, 95726
Primary Phone/Fax	530-644-2349 Ext.
Primary Email	kparr@fs.fed.us

PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

Project Location

Address:	Pacific Ranger District, 7887 Highway 50, , Pollock Pines, CA, 95726
United States	
Water Agency:	El Dorado Irrigation District
Latitude:	38.939651
Longitude:	-120.31745
Congressional District:	n/a
Senate:	n/a
Assembly:	n/a
Within City Limits:	No
City Name:	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grant Application Type

Grant Application Type: Category Two Pre-Project Activities
Grant Application Type: Category Two Pre-Project Activities

PROJECT OTHER CONTACTS INFORMATION

Other Grant Project Contacts
Name: Ms. Charis Parker, Project Role: Day-to-Day Responsibility Phone: 5306475430 Phone Ext: E-mail: cparker@fs.fed.us

UPLOADS

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
Completed Application Checklist
Table of Contents
Full Application Form
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Narrative Descriptions
Detailed Budget Form
Letters of Support
Letters of Support
Project Location Map
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Topographic Map
Photos of the Project Site

To preserve the integrity of the uploaded document, headers, footers and page numbers have not been added by the system.

Full Application Checklist

Project Name: Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan

Applicant: Eldorado National Forest, Pacific Ranger District

Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

1. ☒ Completed Application Checklist (EFN: *Checklist.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
2. ☒ Table of Contents (EFN: *TOC.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
3. ☒ Full Application Project Information Form (EFN: *SIform.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
4. ☒ Authorization to Apply or Resolution (EFN: *authorization.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf*)
5. ☒ Narrative Descriptions - Submit a single document that includes each of the following narrative descriptions (EFN: *Narrative.doc, .docx, .rtf*)
 - a. ☒ Detailed Project Description (5,000 character maximum)
 - ☒ Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc.
 - ☒ Project Summary
 - ☒ Environmental Setting
 - b. ☒ Workplan and Schedule (1,000 character maximum)
 - c. ☒ Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements(1,000 character maximum)
 - d. ☒ Organizational Capacity(1,000 character maximum)
 - e. ☒ Cooperation and Community Support (1,000 character maximum)
 - f. ☒ Long Term Management and Sustainability (1,000 character maximum)
 - g. ☒ Performance Measures (1,000 character maximum)
6. Supplemental and Supporting documents
 - a. ☒ Detailed Budget Form (EFN: *Budget.xls, .xlsx*)
 - b. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable
 - ☐ N/A Restrictions / Agreements (EFN: *RestAgree.pdf*)
 - ☐ N/A Regulatory Requirements / Permits (EFN: *RegPermit.pdf*)
 - ☐ N/A California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation (EFN: *CEQA.pdf*)
 - ☐ N/A National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation (EFN: *NEPA.pdf*)

- c. Cooperation and Community Support
 - ☒ Letters of Support (EFN: LOS.pdf)
- d. Long-Term Management and Sustainability
 - ☐ See Project Description Long-Term Management Plan (EFN: LTMP.pdf)
- e. Maps and Photos
 - ☒ Project Location Map (EFN: LocMap.pdf)
 - ☒ Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) (EFN: ParcelMap.pdf)
 - ☒ Topographic Map (EFN: Topo.pdf)
 - ☒ Photos of the Project Site (10 maximum) (EFN: Photo.jpg, .gif)
- f. Additional submission requirements for Conservation Easement Acquisition applications only
 - ☐ N/A Acquisition Schedule (EFN: acqSched.doc, .docx, .rtf, .pdf)
 - ☐ N/A Willing Seller Letter (EFN: WillSell.pdf)
 - ☐ N/A Real Estate Appraisal (EFN: Appraisal.pdf)
 - ☐ N/A Conservation Easement Language (EFN: CE.pdf)
- g. Additional submission requirements for Site Improvement / Restoration Project applications only
 - ☐ N/A Land Tenure Documents – attach only if documentation was not included with Pre-application (EFN: Tenure.pdf)
 - ☐ N/A Site Plan (EFN: SitePlan.pdf)
 - ☐ N/A Leases or Agreements (EFN: LeaseAgmnt.pdf)

I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate.

/s/ Richard M. Thornburgh
Signed (Authorized Representative)

1-23-2012
Date

RICHARD M. THORNBURGH, Pacific District Ranger
Name and Title (print or type)

Explanation of those items marked as Not Applicable (N/A)

6.b. This project and the project area have no restriction or encumbrances. This project is a planning project to complete NEPA/CEQA documentation and obtain any necessary permits.

6.d. This project does not implement site restoration. Long-term management of the area is address in the Narrative Description.

6.f&g. This project is not an acquisition or restoration implementation project.

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**SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY
PROPOSITION 84 - PROJECT INFORMATION FORM**

Rev. August 2011

PROJECT NAME **Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan**

APPLICANT NAME

*Eldorado National Forest, Pacific Ranger District
7887 Highway 50, Pollock Pines, CA 95726*

PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING

Name and title – type or print

Phone

Email Address

☒ Mr. Richard Thornburgh, District Ranger 530-642-2349 rthornburgh@fs.fed.us

☐ Ms.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION (*At least one entry is required*)

Name: Ron Briggs, El Dorado County District 4 Supervisor

Phone Number: (530) 621-6513

Email address: bosfour@edcgov.us

Name:

Phone Number:

Email address:

NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY (OR AGENCIES) CONTACT INFORMATION (*At least one entry is required*)

Name: El Dorado Irrigation District

Phone Number: 530-622-4513

Email address: admin@eid.org

Name:

Phone Number:

Email address:

Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details (*Choose One*)

☐ Category One Site Improvement

☒ Category Two Pre-Project Activities

☐ Category One Conservation Easement Acquisition

☐ **Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition**

Project area: _____

Total Acres: _____

SNC Portion (if different): _____

Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank): _____

Select one primary Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition deliverable

☐ Restoration

☐ Enhancement

☐ Resource Protection

<p>SNC Portion (if different): _____</p> <p>For Conservation Easement Acquisitions Only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal Included</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Will submit appraisal by _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Development / Improvement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Easement</p>								
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Project Activities</p>	<p>Select <u>one</u> primary Pre-Project deliverable</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Permit</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Plan</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Condition Assessment								
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CEQA/NEPA Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey								
<input type="checkbox"/> Appraisal	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Site Assessment								
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan									



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Eldorado National Forest
Pacific Ranger District

7887 Highway 50
Pollock Pines, CA 95726
(530) 644-2349 (Voice)
(530) 647-5407 (TTY)

File Code: 1580

Date: January 23, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Eldorado National Forest, I am requesting the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) to consider the Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan grant application for Category Two funding. The proposed project is located on National Forest System lands located on the Pacific Ranger District of the Eldorado National Forest. I am now the Authorized Representative for the proposed project, taking over from Katy Parr, Acting District Ranger, who was listed in the pre-application form.

The planning grant will allow for restoration project design, timely completion of the environmental analysis, and baseline monitoring to ensure continued improvement of hydrologic conditions in the Van Vleck Meadow Complex. Completing the environmental documentation will provide for future implementation of on-the-ground activities to restore these important features at the headwaters of the American River watershed.

The Van Vleck Meadow Complex is partially within the Union Valley-Silver Creek watershed, which was selected as a priority watershed for restoration efforts. The Eldorado National Forest is committed to implementing restoration activities within priority watersheds to improve hydrologic conditions.

This letter authorizes and approves the submittal of the Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan application for funding under the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grants Program, Category Two. I designate the Pacific District Resource Officer, currently Charis Parker, as the authorized representative for the proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Charis Parker, District Resource Officer, at (530) 647-5430 or cparker@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

RICHARD M. THORNBURGH
District Ranger



Project Narrative

Project Description:

Summary: The Van Vleck Meadow Complex is located on the Pacific District, Eldorado National Forest (ENF) just outside of Desolation Wilderness. The ENF has identified problem areas that are negatively contributing to watershed condition and has drafted an action plan for restoration.

The desired outcomes of this proposal is to complete project design for priority restoration areas, complete necessary surveys, complete NEPA/CEQA and required permitting for selected sites, and collect baseline monitoring data to measure effectiveness of future restoration activities.

Environmental Setting: The Van Vleck Meadow Complex occupies upper montane habitats near the headwaters of the American River watershed and feeds the Upper American River Hydroelectric Project. The area is designated critical summer deer fawning habitat and supports sensitive species, such as northern goshawk and habitat for willow flycatcher.

Detailed Project Description: Many of the meadows in the Van Vleck area are still recovering from a long history of overgrazing, poorly designed/maintained roads while in private ownership, dams and diversions, and invasion of conifers. Grazing allotments in the area have been vacant since the late 1990s. Several small restoration projects have been implemented; however, conditions negatively impacting the hydrologic condition of the meadow complex persist.

The Van Vleck Meadow Complex is favored by hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians for its scenic views of the Crystal Range and includes a trailhead accessing Desolation Wilderness. The area has a network of non-motorized trails. In 2011, the El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) provided Title II funds for a Student Conservation Association (SCA) trail crew to complete trail maintenance in the area with a focus on improving meadow crossings. Additional heavy maintenance and trail reconstruction is needed to reduce hydrologic impacts and improve trail conditions for users.

With increased awareness of the importance of meadow systems in water supply and water quality, the ENF drafted a Rapid Watershed Condition Assessment of the Van Vleck Meadow Complex and a Watershed Condition Assessment of the larger watershed. These assessments identified areas negatively contributing to watershed condition and included a five-year restoration plan to address concerns. A portion of the Van Vleck Meadow Complex is within the Union Valley-Silver Creek watershed selected by the ENF as a high priority for restoration efforts. Initial review indicates restoration activities may include streambank stabilization, culvert replacement or removal for passage of aquatic species, reconstruction of a road bisecting Upper Van Vleck meadow, removal and recontour of dams and ditches in Van Vleck meadow, prescribed burning, trail maintenance and/or reconstruction to minimize impacts to water quality, and actions to re-establish hydrologic connectivity in Calf Pasture Meadow.

The focus of this grant proposal is to fund the design of specific priority projects identified in the restoration plan, complete required surveys, complete the required environmental documentation (NEPA/CEQA), and collect baseline monitoring data in order to evaluate the success of project implementation in the future. The ENF has assembled an interdisciplinary team (ID Team), including resource specialists in botany, soils, hydrology, archaeology, fuels, fisheries, and wildlife biology, to complete the proposed project. The ID Team has and will continue to consult with other experienced professionals that have implemented large scale meadow restoration projects in the Sierra Nevada to determine the best methods to address problem areas. After determining the best restoration actions, the ID Team will complete required NEPA documentation and ensure that CEQA requirements related to funding through this grant will be met. The intent is to complete the design and environmental documentation so the ENF will be prepared to compete for future implementation funding.

Over the past several years, the ENF has worked with researchers from California State University, Sacramento (CSUS), to monitor a number of the meadows in the Van Vleck Meadow Complex. The ENF will continue to work with the researchers to collect baseline data in a number of subject areas, including vegetation, hydrologic flow, and species diversity. A monitoring plan will be developed to determine change in conditions. Monitoring results will be used to evaluate the success of the restoration projects.

Workplan and Schedule

This grant will fund the following activities:

- Develop site designs for priority restoration projects. The ID team will consult with other experienced professionals that have implemented large scale meadow restoration projects in the Sierra Nevada to determine the best methods to address problem areas, and will include engineering survey and design where necessary.
- Complete any needed survey work to support NEPA/CEQA analysis.
- Complete required NEPA/CEQA based on site specific project plans.
- Obtain any necessary permits, such as USACE Section 404 and CRWQCB 401 Permit.
- Continue ongoing monitoring to establish baseline conditions and measure changes in condition resulting from future restoration activities.

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES (timeline based on grant award 60 days after SNC Board approval in June 2012)	TIMELINE
Develop site specific restoration project designs for priority projects	September 2012 to July 2013
Initiate internal and interagency scoping while developing site specific project designs.	October 2012
Initiate public scoping on preliminary action. Collaborate with stakeholders with interest in the area (Backcountry Horsemen, Elegant Ears Mule Association, SMUD, tribes, etc)	July 2013

Complete needed surveys (botany, cultural resources, aquatics, wildlife, hydrology, engineering, etc.)	June 2013 to September 2013
Develop monitoring plan based on specific project design. ENF staff to collaborate with CSUS researchers to develop plan	July 2013
Collect baseline monitoring data at priority restoration sites	July to October 2013
Complete Resource Specialist Reports (Botanical and Wildlife Biological Evaluations, Archaeological Reconnaissance Reports, Riparian Conservation Objectives, Cumulative Watershed Effects, etc.) based on site-specific project designs.	July to October 2013
Prepare and issue appropriate NEPA/CEQA documentation and Decision document (i.e Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Notice, or Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision).	September to November 2013
Complete Progress/Final Reports to SNC on Project Deliverables	February 2013, August 2013, January 2014

Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements

Restrictions/Agreements: There are no property restrictions and/or encumbrances that could adversely impact project completion.

Regulatory Requirements/Permits: Based on the final site-specific project design, a Section 404 permit from USACOE, a Water Quality Waiver (401 permit) from CRWQCB, and/or a Streambed Alteration Agreement from CDFG may be required prior to project implementation. The ENF operates under a Programmatic Agreement with the State Historic Preservation Office and regulatory requirements would be met through our NEPA process.

CEQA/NEPA: The intent of this grant proposal is to complete the NEPA documentation for the site specific project designs. The ENF would coordinate with the SNC to ensure that CEQA requirements are also met.

Organizational Capacity

The ENF has implemented numerous meadow restoration projects since the mid-1980s. Within the Van Vleck area, projects have included check dams, aspen enhancement, conifer removal, prescribed burning, and trail reconstruction. Most projects have been partially funded by partners including California Department of Fish and Game, the California Deer Association, and Title II funds through the El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee.

The ENF has assembled an experienced ID Team including a variety of resource specialists as described above. The team will continue to consult with other meadow restoration professionals as project specific designs are completed. The ENF is committed to completing

restoration activities within the Union Valley-Silver Creek priority watershed, of which Van Vleck is a part.

The ENF will continue to work with researchers at California State University, Sacramento to develop a monitoring plan and collect baseline data.

Cooperation and Community Support

The ENF has conducted several field visits to the Van Vleck area meadows with hydrologists familiar with meadow restoration projects, researchers, and local stakeholders. The ENF will collaborate with individuals, organizations, and state and federal agencies that have interest in the Van Vleck area to develop site-specific restoration actions and address any issues. The ENF is currently working with the Cosumnes-American-Bear-Yuba Regional Watershed Management Group (CABY) to include meadow restoration projects on the ENF into the CABY Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), including the Van Vleck Meadow Complex.

The ENF has an established relationship with researchers at CSUS. The university began monitoring in Van Vleck Area meadows in 2006. Dr. Jamie Kneitel, Associate Professor, has submitted a letter of support for continued restoration and monitoring efforts.

See attached letters.

Long-term Management and Sustainability

The project area is managed by the ENF. Management is currently guided by the ENF Land and Resource Management Plan (1988) as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment (2004 SNFPA).

The ENF is following the Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5) Leadership Intent to “*retain and restore ecological resilience of the National Forest lands*” within the next 15-20 years. A goal is to “*restore at least 50% of accessible, degraded forest meadows to improve their habitat function and ability to hold water longer into the summer and deliver clean water when most needed.*”

As mentioned previously, the Van Vleck Meadow Complex is partially within the Union Valley-Silver Creek priority watershed. The ENF is committed to implementing actions that improve hydrologic condition ratings within this watershed.

Performance Measures

Specific Performance measures for this proposal:

- Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments
- Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Resulting in Project Implementation

Performance Measures required for all SNC funding projects:

- Resources Leveraged for the Sierra Nevada
- Number and Diversity of People Reached
- Number and Type of Jobs Created
- Number and Value of New, Improved, or Preserved Economic Activities

Supplemental and Supporting Documents

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84 - DETAILED BUDGET FORM

Project Name: Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Planning

Applicant: Eldorado National Forest, Pacific Ranger District

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Restoration Project Design	\$10,000.00					\$10,000.00
Surveys (Botanical/Arch/Wildlife)	\$2,000.00	\$10,000.00				\$12,000.00
Environmental Analysis		\$30,000.00				\$30,000.00
Monitoring Plan	\$5,000.00					\$5,000.00
Engineering Surveys		\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$17,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$62,000.00

SECTION TWO INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Baseline Monitoring	\$5,000.00					\$5,000.00
Project materials & supplies purchased	\$1,000.00					\$1,000.00
Performance Measure Reporting	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00			\$2,000.00
						\$0.00
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
PROJECT TOTAL:	\$23,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00

SECTION THREE Administrative Costs (Costs may not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost) :						Total
Grants/Agreements/Billing Costs	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00			\$5,000.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	\$25,000.00	\$47,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00

SECTION FOUR OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
California State University,						
Sacramento-Baseline Monitoring	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00				\$30,000.00
Forest Service Allocated Funding	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00				\$20,000.00
						\$0.00
						\$0.00
Total Other Contributions:	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00

NOTE: The categories listed on this form are examples and may or may not be an expense related to the project. Rows may be added or deleted on the form as needed. Applicants should contact the SNC if questions arise.

* Operating Costs should be allocated to the percentage that is applicable to the grant based on your cost allocation methodology and cannot exceed 15% of your total project costs.



California State University, Sacramento
Department of Biological Sciences
6000 J Street • Sequoia Hall 202 • Sacramento, CA 95819-6077
T (916) 278-6535 • F (916) 278-6993 • www.csus.edu

12 January 2012

Valerie Hendon
Pacific Fuels Officer
Eldorado National Forest

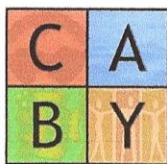
Dear Valerie:

It is my great pleasure to write this letter of support for your Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant on the Van Vleck Restoration Plan. I have conducted many ecological studies on the plants, insects, and vertebrates in the Van Vleck Restoration Area since 2006. Two Master's degrees were produced on this work, and approximately 10 undergraduate students have been involved in various projects there. We have a baseline data set that includes inventories of the plant species and many of the insect species. I strongly support your efforts to continue the restoration of the area. Further, these efforts need to be accompanied by continued monitoring to evaluate restoration effectiveness.

I am looking forward to working with you and provide any support needed to meet your goals of restoring the Van Vleck meadows.

Sincerely,

Jamie M. Kneitel
Associate Professor
Department of Biological Sciences
California State University, Sacramento
Sacramento, CA 95819-6077



Cosumnes, American, Bear & Yuba River
Integrated Regional Water Management

American Basin Council of Watersheds
American River Conservancy
American River Recreation Association
American River Watershed Group
American River Watershed Institute
American Rivers
Bear River Watershed Group
California Outdoors
City of Colfax
County of Placer
County of Sierra
Dry Creek Conservancy
El Dorado County Resource Conservation
District
El Dorado County Water Agency
El Dorado Irrigation District
El Dorado National Forest
Fire Safe Council of Nevada County
Friends of Deer Creek
Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District
Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation
District
Gold Country Fly Fishers
Grizzly Flats Water District
Mountain Counties
Natural Heritage Institute
Nature Conservancy
Nevada County Resource Conservation
District
Nevada Irrigation District
North San Juan Fire Protection District
Northern CA Council Federation of Fly
Fishers
Placer County Resource Conservation
District
Placer County Water Agency
Protect American River Canyons
Save Auburn Ravine Salmon & Steelhead
Sierra Club Mother Lode Chapter
Sierra County
Sierra Fund
Sierra Nevada Alliance
South Yuba River Citizens League
Tahoe National Forest
Upper American River Foundation
Washington County Water District
Wolf Creek Community Alliance
Yuba / Bear Watershed Council

January 20, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, California 95603

To Whom It May Concern,

The Cosumnes-American-Bear-Yuba Integrated Regional Water Management group (CABY) would like to express support of the Eldorado National Forest's Category Two Application requesting funds for the Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan.

CABY comprises more than 42 organizations, representing water supply, conservation, recreation, agriculture, and community interests, as well as federal and local government. CABY functions as a vehicle to bring funding into the region, as well as bringing diverse stakeholders together to develop solutions for regional water management.

CABY's organizational priorities are water quality (maintaining and restoring), water quantity (for both people and the environment, in CABY and statewide), and environmental quality (restoration and preservation).

CABY has been working with the Eldorado National Forest to include meadow restoration activities into the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

The Van Vleck Meadow Complex Assessment and Restoration Plan aligns with CABY's goals and objectives to:

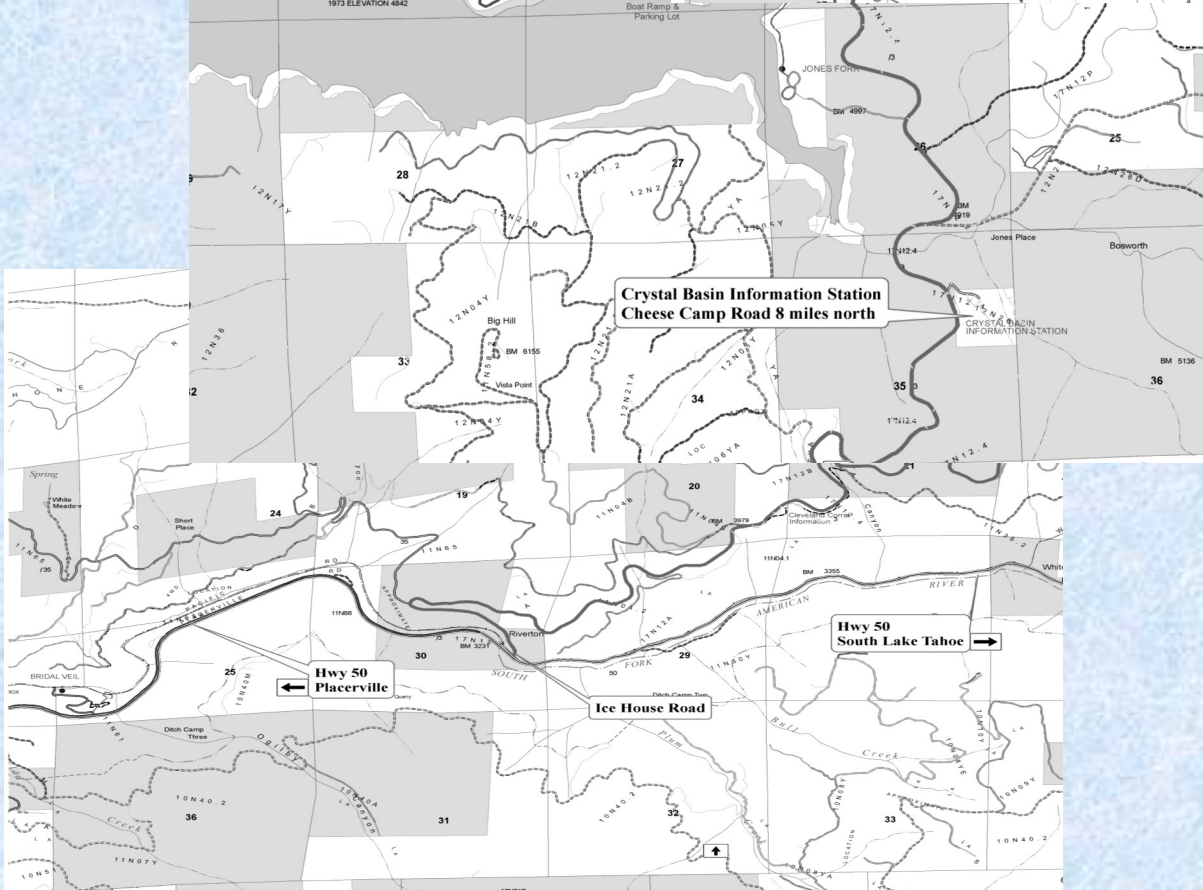
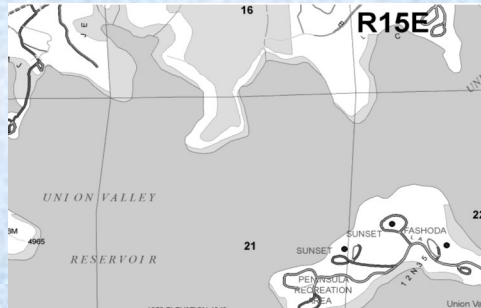
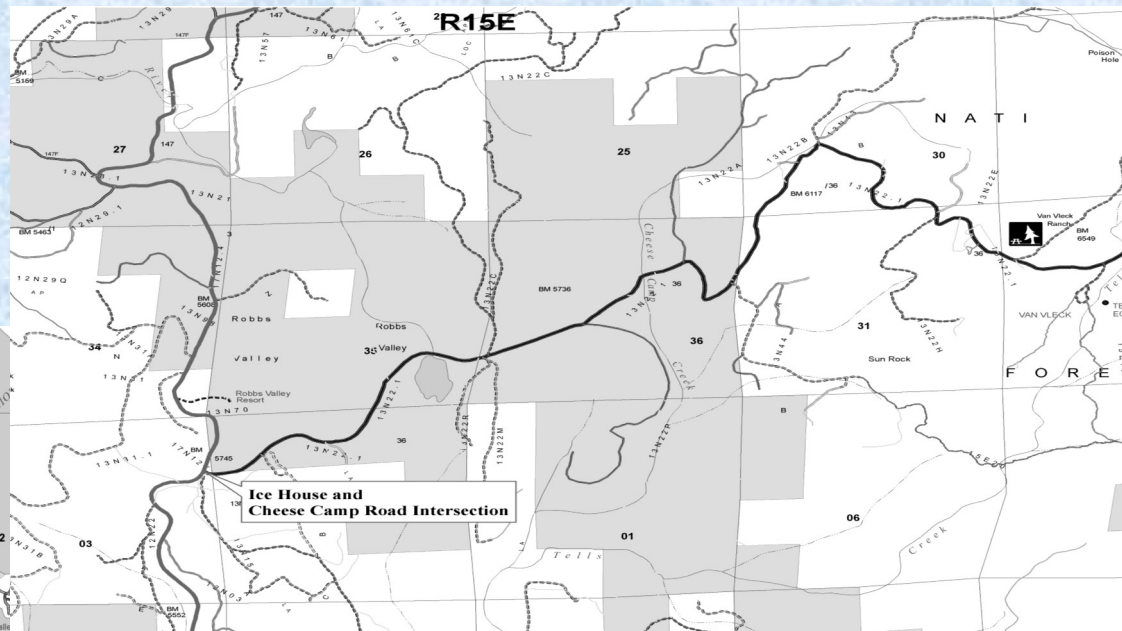
Protect and improve watershed resources through land use practices;
Implement measures to manage and reduce erosion and sedimentation;
Protect and restore riparian, wetland and seasonally flooded habitats.

We hope the Sierra Nevada Conservancy will support the Eldorado National Forest's planning effort to restore hydrologic conditions in the Van Vleck area.

Sincerely,

Katie Burdick
Executive Director

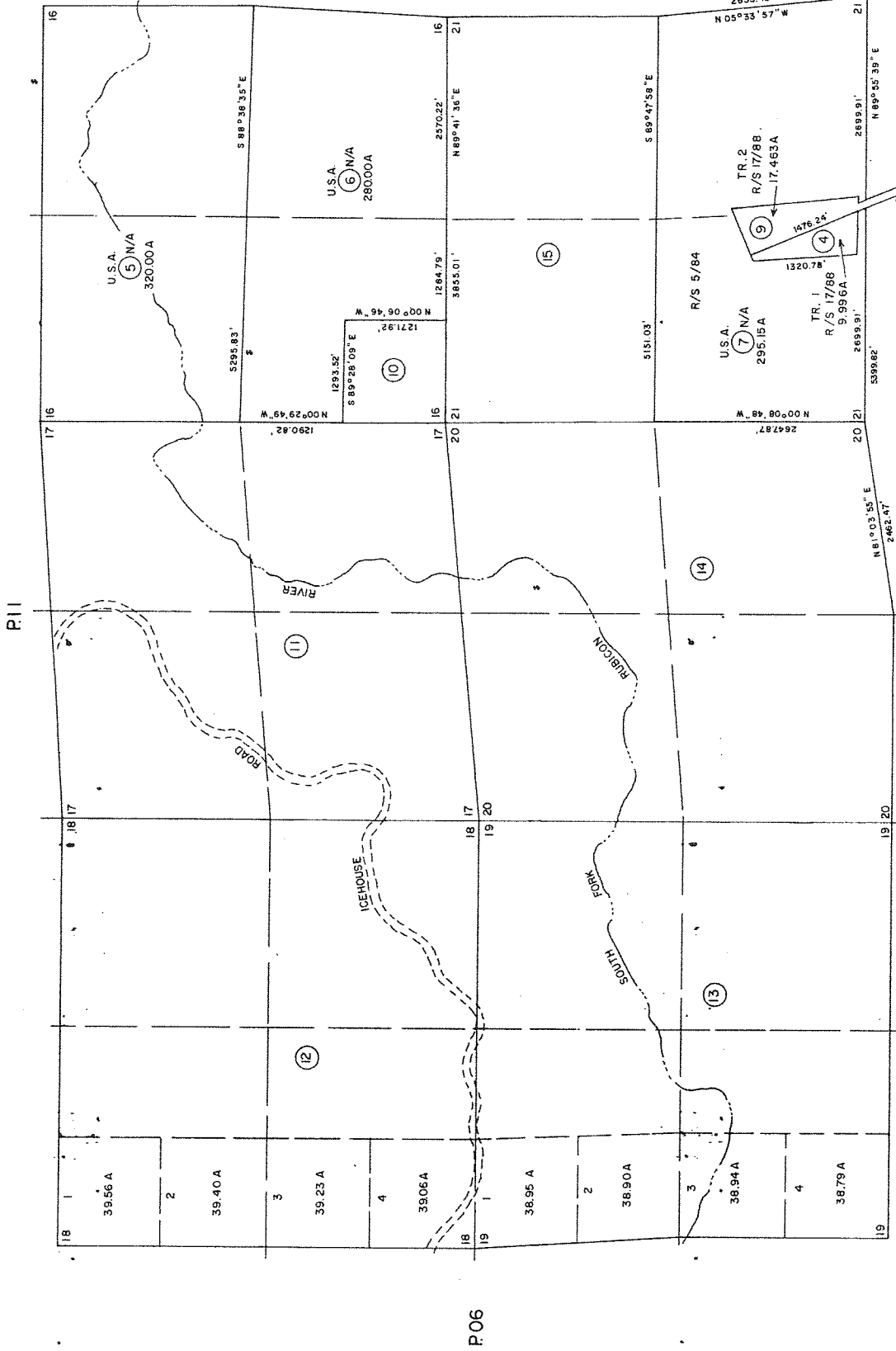
***Van Vleck Restoration Planning Project
Eldorado National Forest
Pacific Ranger District***



***Driving Directions
to the
Van Vleck Meadow Area***

- ◆ Highway 50 east 21 miles from Placerville.
- ◆ Left on Ice House Road north 23 miles.
- ◆ Right on Cheese Camp Road (13N22) 4 miles to fork in the road. Stay right for 1.5 miles to left turn at locked gate.
- ◆ Van Vleck Meadow is a half-mile past the gate across from the bunkhouse (right hand side).

Map not drawn to scale



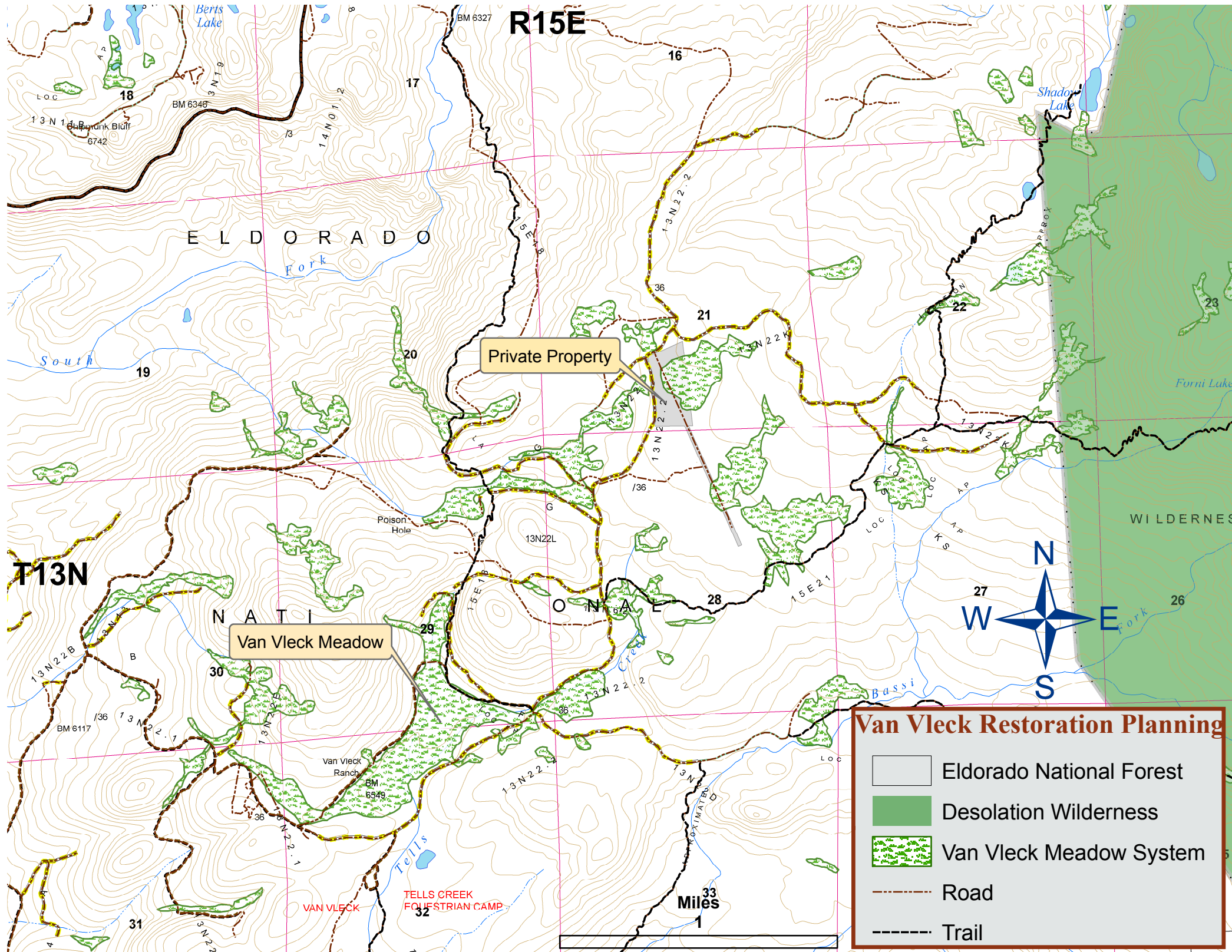
P11

P15

THIS MAP IS NOT A SURVEY. It is prepared by the El Dorado Co. Assessor's office for assessment purposes only.

NOTE - Assessor's Block Numbers Shown in Ellipses
Assessor's Parcel Numbers Shown in Circles

Assessor's Map Bk. 10 -- Pg. 13
County of El Dorado, California



R15E

T13N

Private Property

Van Vleck Meadow

Van Vleck Restoration Planning

-  Eldorado National Forest
-  Desolation Wilderness
-  Van Vleck Meadow System
-  Road
-  Trail

1 Miles

Photos of Project Site



View East of Upper Van Vleck Meadow (July 2010)



View of Berm in Van Vleck meadow altering hydrologic flow



View of ditch within Van Vleck Meadow



Interdisciplinary Team review of soil pit in Calf Pasture Meadow



View northwest toward aspen stand of Alder Meadow in July 2010
after prescribe burn in October 2009



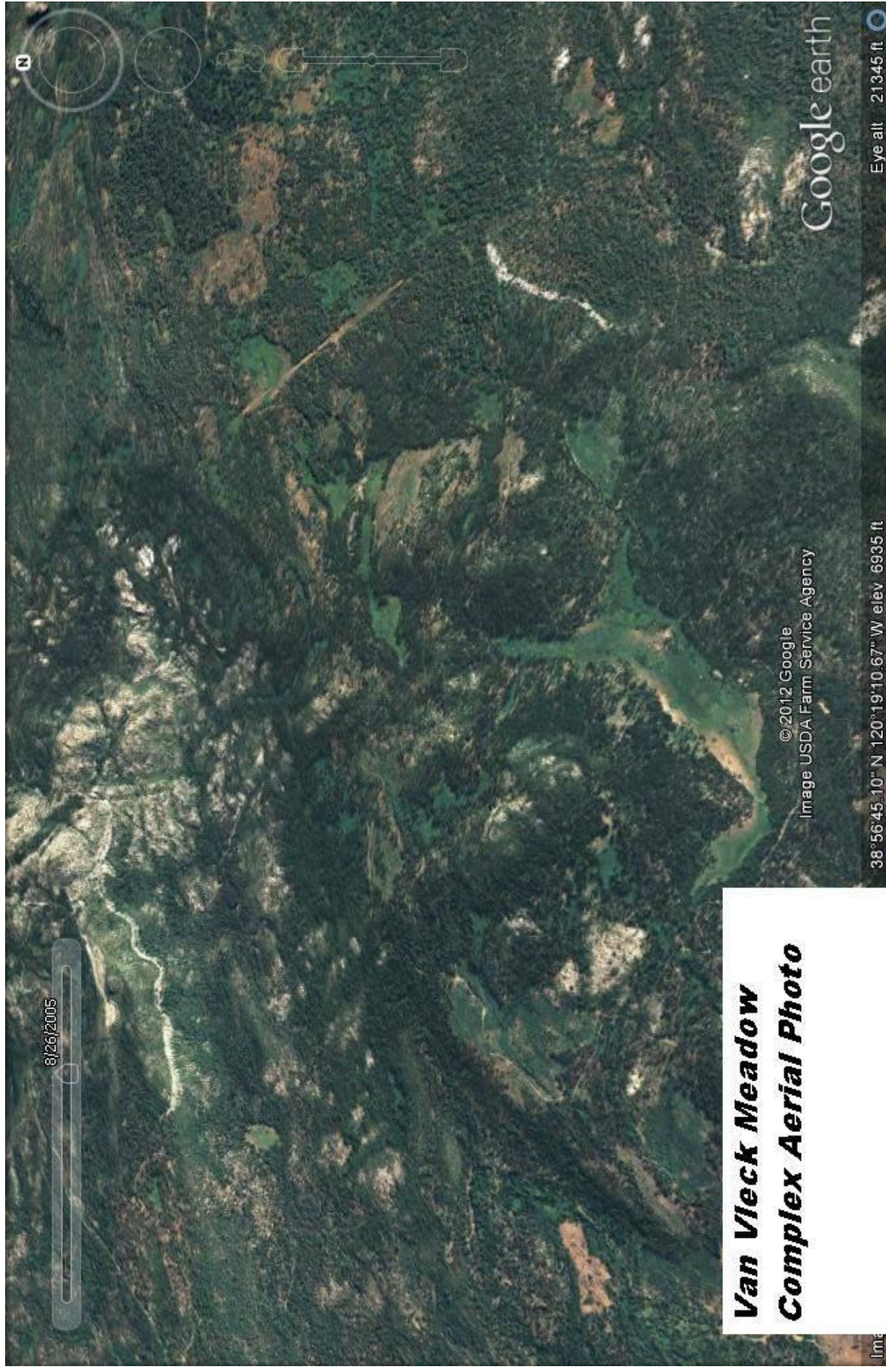
Site visit to Calf Pasture with hydrologists/stakeholders.



SCA trail crew installing French drain at meadow crossing.



Undersized and misaligned culvert.



***Van Vleck Meadow
Complex Aerial Photo***